

Message Text

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64

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCSE-00 SCA-01 H-02 /019 W
----- 092551

R 032121Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8247

UNCLAS BOGOTA 11154

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PORG, CASC CO

SUBJECT: ACCESS TO DETAINED AMERICAN CITIZENS

REF: STATE 269864, BOGOTA 10582 AND 9234

1. THIS EMBASSY'S CONCERN ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO AMERICAN CITIZENS DETAINED IN COLOMBIA SHOULD BE APPARENT IN VIEW OF THE TWO TELEGRAMS AND ORIGINAL OM WHICH WE SENT REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING IT. WE CAN NOT STRESS TOO STRONGLY NEED TO REBUT IN THE MOST FORCEFUL WAY POSSIBLE THE UNACCEPTABLE ARGUMENTS ADVANCED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA FOR DENYING US IMMEDIATE ACCESS.

2. AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THIS PROBLEM CAN ESCALATE IF WE DO NOT MAKE CLEAR OUR REFUSAL TO ACCEDE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA'S INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 36 OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION, PLEASE REFER TO THE TRANSMITTAL DATED OCT. 21 FROM DAVID COX, ARA/ AND/C, TO THE EMBASSY, REGARDING TWO U.S. CITIZENS RECENTLY DETAINED BY COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES FOR A VISA IRREGULARITY AND ALLEGEDLY DENIED PERMISSION TO CALL THE EMBASSY.

3. OVER TWO MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE THIS MATTER WAS FIRST BROUGHT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION AND WE ARE STILL AWAITING A REPLY. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT SOME ACTION BE TAKEN URGENTLY AND REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT PROCEED AS SUGGESTED IN THE REFERENCED TELEGRAMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 03 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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